IN THE CLAIMS:

A complete listing of all claims in the present application, along with their status, is provided below. Please **AMEND** claims 119, 123-124, 126, 131, 135-136, 138, 140-148, and 150-151, and **ADD** new claims 152-175, as indicated below.

Claims 1-115 (canceled)

116. (previously presented) A method for distributing content to a user station, comprising:

providing a first portable storage medium, the first portable storage medium including first fixed content and computer executable software;

wherein when the first portable storage medium is used at the user station, the computer executable software can be installed on the user station to (i) enable a user at the user station to access first remote content from a first remote content source, the first remote content relating to the first fixed content and (ii) enable the user to access second remote content from a second remote content source, the second remote content relating to second fixed content, the second fixed content being different from the first fixed content, and the second fixed content being included on a second portable storage medium.

117. (previously presented) The method of claim 116, wherein the first portable storage medium further includes a specification of predefined transport tasks, and wherein the user station initiates connections to the first remote content source in accordance with the predefined transport tasks.

118. (previously presented) The method of claim 116, wherein the first remote content is provided to the user with a first look and feel specific to the first fixed content and wherein the second remote content is provided to the user with a second look and feel specific to the second fixed content.

119. (currently amended) The method of claim 118, wherein the first look and feel is customized by an author of the first fixed content and wherein the second look and feel is customized by an author of the second ~~first~~ fixed content.

120. (previously presented) The method of claim 116, wherein each of the first remote content and the second remote content includes a web page.

121. (previously presented) The method of claim 116, wherein the first remote content is coded with a markup language available on the first remote content source and wherein the second remote content is coded with a markup language available on the second remote content source.

122. (previously amended) The method of claim 116, wherein the computer executable software can be installed on the user station to (iii) establish connections between the user station and the first and second remote content sources.

123. (currently amended) The method of claim 122, wherein the connections are ~~based on events that are~~ initiated by the user.

124. (currently amended) The method of claim 122, wherein the connections ~~are based on events that~~ are ~~initiated by~~ made in accordance with a specification included in at least one of the first fixed content and the second fixed content.

125. (previously presented) The method of claim 122, wherein the connections are transparent to the user.

126. (currently amended) The method of claim 116, wherein the first fixed content can be presented to the user together with the first remote ~~conent~~ content in such a manner that the user perceives a seamless integration of the first fixed content and the first remote content and wherein the second fixed content can be presented to the user

together with the second remote ~~conent~~ content in such a manner that the user perceives a seamless integration of the second fixed content and the second remote content.

127. (previously presented) The method of claim 116, wherein the first portable storage medium further includes link data identifying the first remote content source.

128. (previously presented) A first portable storage medium comprising:

first fixed content; and

computer executable software;

wherein when the first portable storage medium is used at a user station, the computer executable software can be installed on the user station to (i) enable a user at the user station to access first remote content from a first remote content source, the first remote content relating to the first fixed content and (ii) enable the user to access second remote content from a second remote content source, the second remote content relating to second fixed content, the second fixed content being different from the first fixed content, and the second fixed content being included on a second portable storage medium.

129. (previously presented) The first portable storage medium of claim 128, further comprising a specification of predefined transport tasks, wherein the user station initiates connections to the first remote content source in accordance with the predefined transport tasks.

130. (previously presented) The first portable storage medium of claim 128, wherein the first remote content is provided to the user with a first look and feel specific to the first fixed content and wherein the second remote content is provided to the user with a second look and feel specific to the second fixed content.

131. (currently amended) The first portable storage medium of claim 130, wherein the first look and feel is customized by an author of the first fixed content and

wherein the second look and feel is customized by an author of the second ~~first~~ fixed content.

132. (previously presented) The first portable storage medium of claim 128, wherein each of the first remote content and the second remote content includes a web page.

133. (previously presented) The first portable storage medium of claim 128, wherein the first remote content is coded with a markup language available on the first remote content source and wherein the second remote content is coded with a markup language available on the second remote content source.

134. (previously presented) The first portable storage medium of claim 128, wherein the computer executable software can be installed on the user station to (iii) establish connections between the user station and the first and second remote content sources.

135. (currently amended) The first portable storage medium of claim 134, wherein the connections are ~~based on events that are~~ initiated by the user.

136. (currently amended) The first portable storage medium of claim 134, wherein the connections are ~~based on events that are initiated by~~ made in accordance with a specification included in at least one of the first fixed content and the second fixed content.

137. (previously presented) The first portable storage medium of claim 134, wherein the connections are transparent to the user.

138. (currently amended) The first portable storage medium of claim 128, wherein the first fixed content can be presented to the user together with the first remote ~~conent~~ content in such a manner that the user perceives a seamless integration of the first

fixed content and the first remote content and wherein the second fixed content can be presented to the user together with the second remote ~~conent~~ content in such a manner that the user perceives a seamless integration of the second fixed content and the second remote content.

139. (previously presented) The first portable storage medium of claim 128, wherein the first portable storage medium further includes link data identifying the first remote content source.

140. (currently amended) A user station comprising:

a user interface ~~facilities that enable a user at the user station to use each of a plurality of portable storage media, each of the plurality of portable storage media including fixed content unique to the portable storage medium and different from the fixed content included on each of the other portable storage media~~;

a processor; and

programmed logic;

wherein the processor executes the programmed logic to ~~(i)~~ enable a user at the user station to access, via the user interface, ~~the~~ fixed content from ~~any selected one~~ each of ~~the~~ a plurality of portable storage media together with respective remote content from one or more remote content sources, and

wherein, for each of the plurality of portable storage media, the user interface is customized with respect to the fixed content stored on the portable storage medium when the user accesses the fixed content stored on the storage medium.

141. (currently amended) The user station of claim 140, ~~further comprising~~ wherein each of the plurality of portable storage media includes a specification of predefined transport tasks, and wherein further, the user station initiates connections to the first remote content source in accordance with the predefined transport tasks.

142. (currently amended) The user station of claim 140, wherein the remote content includes first remote content that is provided to the user with a first look and feel

specific to ~~the~~ first fixed content included on a first one of the plurality of portable storage media, and ~~wherein the~~ second remote content that is provided to the user with a second look and feel specific to ~~the~~ second fixed content included on a second one of the plurality of portable storage media.

143. (currently amended) The user station of claim 142, wherein the first look and feel is customized by an author of the first fixed content and wherein the second look and feel is customized by an author of the second ~~first~~ fixed content.

144. (currently amended) The user station of claim ~~140~~ 142, wherein each of the first remote content and the second remote content includes a web page.

145. (currently amended) The user station of claim ~~140~~ 142, wherein the first remote content is coded with a markup language available on ~~the~~ a first remote content source and wherein the second remote content is coded with a markup language available on ~~the~~ a second remote content source.

146. (currently amended) The user station of claim 140, wherein at least one of the plurality of portable storage media includes ~~the~~ computer executable software that can be installed on the user station to ~~(iii)~~ establish connections between the user station and the ~~first and second~~ one or more remote content sources.

147. (currently amended) The user station of claim 146, wherein the connections ~~are based on events that~~ are initiated by the user.

148. (currently amended) The user station of claim 146, wherein the connections are ~~based on events that are initiated by~~ made in accordance with a specification included in the ~~first~~ fixed content ~~and the second fixed content~~ stored on at least one of the plurality of portable storage media.

149. (previously presented) The user station of claim 146, wherein the connections are transparent to the user.

150. (currently amended) The user station of claim ~~140~~ 142, wherein the first fixed content can be presented to the user together with the first remote content in such a manner that the user perceives a seamless integration of the first fixed content and the first remote content and wherein the second fixed content can be presented to the user together with the second remote content in such a manner that the user perceives a seamless integration of the second fixed content and the second remote content.

151. (currently amended) The user station of claim 140, wherein the plurality of portable storage media includes a ~~the~~ first portable storage medium ~~further~~ that includes first fixed content and link data identifying a respective ~~the~~ first remote content source.

152. (newly added) A method of distributing software to a client computer over the Internet via a server-based update distribution service, comprising:

providing on a first portable storage medium a first computer executable software application that can be executed on the client computer; and

providing on the first portable storage medium computer executable software that can be transferred to the client computer to (i) enable the client computer to obtain over the Internet via the server-based update distribution service an update for the first computer executable software application, the update for the first computer executable software application being selected at the client computer, and (ii) enable the client computer to obtain over the Internet via the server-based update distribution service an update for a second computer executable software application on the client computer, the second computer executable software application being different from the first computer executable software application, and the update for the second computer executable software application being selected at the client computer.

153. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the second computer executable software application is transferred to the client computer from a second portable storage medium.

154. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the computer executable software is invoked through the one of the first and second computer executable software applications to be updated.

155. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the client computer obtains the at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications in response to a user action.

156. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the client computer obtains the at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications according to a schedule.

157. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the client computer obtains the at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications according to a user-defined schedule.

158. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the client computer obtains the at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications according to a schedule determined by the server-based update distribution service.

159. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the client computer obtains the at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications according to a user-modifiable schedule.

160. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the computer executable software utilizes an API when communicating with the update distribution service.

161. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the computer executable software can be integrated with at least one of the first and second computer executable software applications.

162. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the client computer communicates with the update distribution service using a viewer that is capable of displaying HTML objects.

163. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the client computer obtains the at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications in response to a user action, and wherein the user action includes the user selecting the at least one of the updates from a listing of updates supplied with the respective computer executable software application.

164. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the client computer checks for updates for the first and second computer executable software applications according to a schedule and allows the user to defer obtaining the updates until a specified later time.

165. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the computer-generated list includes, for the at least one of the updates, at least one of a file size and a date.

166. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein the computer executable software enables the client computer to obtain updates for the computer executable software.

167. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications is selected from a computer-generated list displayed at the client computer and created based on

information stored at the client computer indicating an update status for the client computer with respect to the respective computer executable software application.

168. (newly added) The method of claim 167, wherein the information stored at the client computer includes a product identification for the respective computer executable software application, wherein the product identification is sent to the update distribution service without requiring the user to input the product identification into the client computer, and wherein the computer-generated list is generated by the update distribution service upon receiving the information from the client computer.

169. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications is selected from a computer-generated list displayed at the client computer and created based on an update status for the client computer with respect to the respective computer executable software application.

170. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications is selected from a computer-generated list displayed at the client computer and created based on an update status for the client computer with respect to the respective computer executable software application, the update status being determined without requiring any user input regarding the update status.

171. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications is selected from a computer-generated list displayed at the client computer and created based on an update status for the client computer with respect to the respective computer executable software application, the update status being determined automatically.

172. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications is obtained responsive

to information stored at the client computer indicating an update status for the client computer with respect to the respective computer executable software application.

173. (newly added) The method of claim 172, wherein the information stored at the client computer includes a product identification for the respective computer executable software application, wherein the product identification is sent to the update distribution service without requiring the user to input the product identification into the client computer.

174. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications is obtained based on an update status for the client computer with respect to the respective computer executable software application, the update status being determined without requiring any user input regarding the update status.

175. (newly added) The method of claim 152, wherein at least one of the updates for the first and second computer executable software applications is obtained based on an update status for the client computer with respect to the respective computer executable software application, the update status being determined automatically.